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September 6, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
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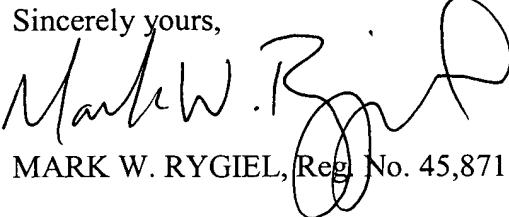
Re: U.S. Patent Application No.: 09/108,189
For: AN INTRODUCER SHEATH FOR USE DURING A SURGICAL
PROCEDURE
Our Reference No.: 23660-00611

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith in connection with the above-identified matter is the following document:

(1) Response to Office Action (13 pages)

Please date-stamp the enclosed copy of this letter, thereby acknowledging receipt of the above-identified document.

Sincerely yours,

MARK W. RYZIEL, Reg. No. 45,871

Enclosure

MWR/la



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

Application of: **Howard Tanner, et al.**

Serial No.: **09/108,189** Examiner: **J. Thissell**

Filed: **July 1, 1998** Group: **3763**

For: **AN INTRODUCER SHEATH FOR USE DURING A SURGICAL PROCEDURE**

Attorney Docket #: **23660-00611**

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

In response to the Office Action dated June 6, 2005, Applicants submit the following remarks regarding the above-referenced patent application. The present claims in the application are reflected in the listing which begins on page 2 of this paper. Applicants remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.